

# Remember, you're not just fertilizing your lawn



## Fertilize sparingly and caringly

Storm drains found in our streets and yards empty into our lakes and streams. So, **when we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and streams**. While fertilizer is good for our lawn, it's bad for our water. Fertilizer in our lakes and streams causes algae to grow. Algae can form large blooms and uses up oxygen that fish need to survive.

**What can you do?** Simple. Use a **no or low phosphorus fertilizer**, select a **slow release** fertilizer where at least half of the nitrogen is water insoluble (check the ingredients on the label), keep fertilizer away from lakes, streams, and storm drains, and **sweep excess fertilizer** back onto your lawn. Not only will our lakes and streams thank you, but so will your pocketbook!

Find out more at [www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org).

Brought to you by the Northwest Indiana MS4 Community Partnership.  
Support provided by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (219-763-6060).